



Iowa Department of Human Services

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[DHS Open Records Policy](#)

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DHS Responses to Open Records Requests in November 2012

The DHS responds to numerous requests for public records. Requests for confidential records by people who are permitted by law to receive them are not listed here

On Nov. 2 the department responded to a request by Trish O'Hara of PsychSearch.net, an advocacy group based in Clearwater, Fla. Ms. O'Hara wanted the identity of two Iowa providers whose Medicaid numbers were issued prior to the new national numbering system.

On Nov. 13 the department responded to a Nov. 9 request by Kendal Watkins of the DavisBrown law firm of Des Moines. Mr. Watkins wanted a copy of a letter announcing that Medicaid payments to a nursing home in Waverly, Iowa, were being suspended because of credible allegations of fraud. There was no fee

On Nov. 15 the department responded to an Oct. 28 request by researcher Elizabeth Lee (Elizabethlee@gmail.com) who wanted the number of people aged 20 and older enrolled in Iowa Medicaid by ZIP Code, the number of people up to age 19 enrolled in Medicaid by ZIP Code, and the number of children enrolled in the hawk-I program by ZIP Code. There was no fee.

On Nov. 21 the department responded to a Nov. 7 request by Independent Healthcare Research of Atlanta, Ga., for a certain Medicaid contract. There is no contract and no RFP. The department instead issued and received requests for information. The information was sent to the requestor. There was no fee.

On Nov. 28 the department responded to a Nov. 16 request by Market Data Retrieval of Shelton, Conn. MDR wanted a list of licensed childcares in Iowa. A link to list was provided.

On Nov. 28 the department responded to a Nov. 26 request by the BrownWinick law firm of Des Moines. The firm wanted the state's database of decisions regarding requests for exceptions to Iowa policy. A link to the list was provided. The firm also wanted copies of director decision letters in all exception-to-policy cases similar to decisions received by a Brown Winick client. There are hundreds of such letters, each containing confidential information. The letters could be redacted but it was explained that there would be an administrative fee to copy and redact the letters.

On Nov. 28 the department responded to a Nov. 11 request from Susan Craig of Faith Bridge Foster Care of Alpharetta, Ga. Ms. Craig wanted details on foster children, such as number placed with relatives versus non-relatives, numbers entering and exiting care, numbers broken out by age, etc. She wanted the data by various geographic areas. We were able to provide statistics for the state and for each of the five service areas, but not broken down by county or ZIP code. There was no fee.

On Nov. 29 the department responded to a Nov. 19 request from Kaine Tomey of Home Care Delivered Inc., of Glen Allen, VA. Mr. Tomey wanted Medicaid purchasing data on a very large list of items, and he wanted it broken down in a way that would require 16 hours of programming. The requested records are public but they have not been gathered and calculated in the manner requested. Since there is no business purpose for the agency to gather the records, Mr. Tomey was informed that the work would begin as soon as the department received his check to offset admin costs.